

### **Out-of-Boundary Absenteeism Protocol**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

DC Public Schools is committed to ensuring that all of our students have the tools they need to succeed academically. However, in order for these tools to be effective, regular and timely school attendance is imperative. To improve attendance of all our students, DCPS has supplemented existing attendance protocols and enhanced support measures for out-of-boundary students.

Out-of-boundary students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade with more than **10 unexcused absences or 20 unexcused tardies** can be asked to return to their neighborhood schools at the end of the school year provided the out-of-boundary school has implemented all of the required DCPS attendance interventions. The decision to effectuate this protocol will be based on the principal's determination as to whether the child's attendance problem is due in significant part to the distance they travel to school.

Parents will be notified in writing or in attendance conferences after five unexcused absences or ten unexcused tardies that their child will be asked to return to their neighborhood school if they reach ten unexcused absences or twenty unexcused tardies during the remainder of the school year. Schools may not require students to leave mid-year and parents will be notified in writing that their child will not be permitted to return for the following school year.

All students always retain the right to return to their neighborhood schools regardless of the enrollment at that school.

If you have any questions, please contact the DCPS Critical Response Team at 202-478-5738.